

## Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-15 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 AID-20 EB-11

DRC-01 SSO-00 /191 W

----- 077645

P R 111620Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7135

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 2128

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UV, IS

SUBJ: GOUV BREAKS WITH ISRAEL

REF: COTONOU 1529

1. LOCAL RADIO THIS MORNING MADE PUBLIC WHAT WE LEARNED FROM ISRAELI EMBASSY LAST NIGHT, I.E. VOLTAN DECISION BREAK DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL.

2. GOVERNMENT RADIO STATEMENT FOLLOWS VERY CLOSELY THE DAHOMEAN EXAMPLE (COTONOU REFTEL) AND TIMING IS VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL. WE SUSPECT BOTH DECISIONS ENCOURAGED BY PRESSURES ON CERTAIN BLACK AFRICAN REPRESENTATIVES CURRENTLY ATTENDING UNGA SESSIONS.

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3. IN AT LEAST VOLTAN CASE THIS IS CLEAR. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR RECEIVED THE NEWS YESTERDAY FROM ACTING FONMIN BARRAUD. BARRAUD SAID ACTION WAS RESULT OF DECISION BY VOLTAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, BUT QUITE DIFFERENT STORY EMERGED WHEN ISRAELI AMBASSADOR TALKED LATER WITH PRIME MINISTER. PM SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY TELEPHONE FROM PRES. LAMIZANA FROM NEW YORK EARLY OCTOBER 10 TO ANNOUNCE BREAK. PM SAID HE TOLD LAMIZANA SUCH ACTION PLACED HIM IN EXCEEDINGLY EMBARRASSING POSITION GIVEN SIGNATURE LATE LAST MONTH OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS PROVIDING FOR NEARLY \$1 MILLION ASSISTANCE IN VARIOUS FIELDS. PM INSISTED THAT PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTIONS BE CONFIRMED IN WRITING. LAMIZANA ASKED THAT PRESS CONFERENCE BE CALLED TO ANNOUNCE DECISION IN OUAGADOUGOU. PM MAINTAINS HE REFUSED, TELLING PRESIDENT THAT ANY SUCH CONFERENCE SHOULD BE HELD BY LAMIZANA IN NEW YORK. PM SHOWED ISRAELI AMBASSADOR CONFIRMATORY TELEGRAM IN MORE LANGUAGE THAT LAMIZANA SUBSEQUENTLY SENT. TELEGRAM STATED THAT FONMIN CONOMBO AGREED WITH DECISION.

4. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR ALLEGES THAT PROTESTS AGAINST ACTION ARE FLOODING PM'S OFFICE, PARTICULARLY FROM LABOR UNION LEADERS. HE IS PERSONALLY ACCEPTING DECISION PHILOSOPHICALLY, HAVING ALREADY SUFFERED SIMILAR TRIBULATIONS AS ISRAEL'S LAST AMBASSADOR IN CONAKRY AND BRAZZAVILLE. ACTING FONMIN TOLD HIM HE NEED NOT HURRY TO DEPART, BUT HE INTENDS WRAP UP HIS AFFAIRS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, HOPING TO BE GONE PRIOR TO LAMIZANA'S RETURN IN MID OR LATE OCTOBER.

5. NO RELIABLE INDICATIONS YET AVAILABLE CONCERNING DEGREE TO WHICH ARAB PROMISES OF MONEY OR OTHER AID MAY BE INVOLVED IN GOUV DECISION. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, HOWEVER, GOUV INCREASINGLY UNCOMFORTABLE OVER PAST YEAR WHEN NOT IN STEP WITH MAJORITY AFRICAN SENTIMENT ON ANY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE. DECISION PROBABLY INEVITABLE IN CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES WITH OR WITHOUT QUID PRO QUO.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Subject:** GOUV BREAKS WITH ISRAEL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UV, IS, DM, XF, XI, (LAMIZANA, SANGOULE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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